CLAIMS

1. An aerosol formulation comprising a medicament, 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane, a surface active agent and at least one compound having a higher polarity than 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane.

2. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 1 suitable for administration to a patient by oral or nasal inhalation.

3. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 2 comprising a suspension of medicament particles having a median particle size of less than 10 microns.

4. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 2 which is a solution formulation.

5. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 1 wherein less than 5% by weight of the propellant composition comprises $CHClF_2$, CH_2F_2, CF_3CH_3, and mixtures thereof.

6. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 5 which is substantially free of $CHClF_2$, CH_2F_2 and CF_3CH_3.

7. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 1 wherein said compound having a higher polarity than 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane is a member selected from the group consisting of alcohols, saturated hydrocarbons, and mixtures thereof.

8. An aerosol formulation as claimed in Claim 7 wherein said compound is a member from the group consisting of ethyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, n-pentane, isopentane, neopentane, isopropyl myristate and mixtures thereof.

9. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 1 wherein 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane is present in an amount of at least 50% by weight of the formulation.

10. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 9 wherein 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane is present in an amount in the range 60 to 95% by weight of the formulation.

11. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 9 wherein the weight ratio of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane : compound of higher polarity is in the range 50 : 50 to 99 : 1.

12. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 11 wherein the weight ratio of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane : compound of high polarity is in the range 70 : 30 to 98 : 2.

13. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 12 wherein the ratio of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane : compound of higher polarity is in the range 85 : 15 to 95 : 5.

14. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 7 wherein said surface active agent is a member selected from the group consisting of sorbitan trioleate, sorbitan monooleate, sorbitan monolaurate, polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan monolaurate, polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan monooleate, natural lecithin, oleyl polyoxyethylene (2) ether, stearyl polyoxyethylene (2) ether, lauryl polyoxyethylene (4) ether, block copolymers of oxyethylene and oxypropylene, Oleic acid, Synthetic lecithin, Diethylene glycol dioleate, Tetrahydrofurfuryl oleate, Ethyl oleate, Isopropyl myristate, Glyceryl monooleate, Glyceryl monostearate, Glyceryl monoricinoleate, Cetyl alcohol, Stearyl alcohol, Polyethylene glycol 400 and Cetyl pyridinium chloride, olive oil, glyceryl monolaurate, corn oil, cotton seed oil and sunflower seed oil.

15. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 14 wherein the weight ratio of surface active agent : medicament is in the range 1 : 100 to 10 : 1.

16. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 14 wherein said medicament is a member selected from the group consisting of salbutamol, beclomethasone dipropionate, disodium cromoglycate, pirbuterol, isoprenaline, adrenaline, rimiterol, and ipratropium bromide.

17. An aerosol formulation according to Claim 16 wherein said medicament is present in an amount in the range 0.01 to 5% by weight of the formulation.

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